

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently amended) A method of reducing reflective glare produced by a lamp assembly, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) determining that a potential reflective glare producing condition exists; and
 - (b) ~~placing rotating~~ a moveable reflective glare reducing shield within a plane generally perpendicular to the lamp assembly's optical axis, so that the shield is placed in the forward beam of a lamp assembly having lamp assembly's forward beam to produce an illumination field formed by the light exiting the lamp assembly with reduced illumination in the foreground area of the illumination field.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[2]]1, wherein the step of rotating a shield comprises the step of [[,]] rotating an opaque shield into the forward beam of the lamp assembly.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Currently amended) The lamp assembly of claim [[4]]6, wherein the shield is moveable between a plurality of positions between the first position and the second position, such that when the shield is in each of the plurality of positions, a respective plurality of illumination levels are produced by the beam of light in the foreground area, each of the plurality of illumination levels being greater than the second illumination level and less than the first illumination level.

Commissioner for Patents

Serial No.: 10/771,772

Response Date: January 4, 2006

Reply to Office Action dated October 5, 2005

Page 3

6. (Currently amended) ~~The lamp assembly of claim 5, wherein the shield is moveable~~ An

automobile lamp assembly comprising:

(a) a reflector having an optical axis;

(b) a light source placed such that light from the light source impinges upon the reflector
and is reflected in a forward direction;

(c) a lens located forward of the reflector, such that light reflected by the reflector passes
through the lens and exits the lamp assembly in the form of a beam producing an
illumination field, the illumination field having an upper area and a foreground area; and

(d) a reflective glare reducing shield~~The lamp assembly of claim 5, wherein the shield is~~
moveable by rotation within a plane generally perpendicular to the optical axis~~between~~
a first position and a second position, such that when the shield is in the first position, a first
illumination level is produced by the beam of light in the foreground area, and such that
when the shield is in the second position, a second illumination level is produced by the
beam of light in the foreground area, the second illumination level being less than the first
illumination level.

7. (Original) The lamp assembly of claim 6, wherein the shield comprises:

(a) a ring having a vacant center;

(b) teeth arranged about the ring; and

(c) a protuberance arranged upon the ring and protruding into the center of the ring.

8. (Original) The lamp assembly of claim 7, wherein the lamp assembly further comprises a
means for rotating the shield, the means for rotating engaged with the teeth.

Commissioner for Patents

Serial No.: 10/771,772

Response Date: January 4, 2006

Reply to Office Action dated October 5, 2005

Page 4

9. (Original) The lamp assembly of claim 8, wherein the means for rotating is in a location remote from the shield.

10. (Original) The lamp assembly of claim 7, wherein the protuberance is generally in the shape of a partial epicycloid.

11. (Original) The lamp assembly of claim 10, wherein the protuberance is opaque.

12. (Original) The lamp assembly of claim 7, the lamp assembly further comprising, a cutoff shield having an upper edge, the cutoff shield located between the glare reducing shield and the lens.

13. (Original) The lamp assembly of claim 12, wherein when the glare reducing shield is in the first position, the protuberance is lower than the upper edge of the cutoff shield so that the first illumination level is produced, and when the glare reducing shield is in the second position, the protuberance is higher than the upper edge of the cutoff shield so that the second illumination level is produced.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)